

NEWS RELEASE

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CAMPFIRES RESTRICTED ON STATE, FEDERAL AND UNINCORPORATED
PRIVATE LANDS

Per Governor Leavitt's announcement on July 3, 2002, Utah's fire restriction order has been expanded to include all open fires, including campfires in improved campgrounds and picnic areas, on all state, federal, and unincorporated private lands. The restriction order takes effect at 12:01 a.m., July 8, 2002 and remains in effect until rescinded.

"This is a necessary precaution due to the extremely dry conditions and volatility of vegetation throughout the state," explained Governor Leavitt. "This is an interagency agreement with our federal partners, the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and National Park Service, that open fires of any kind must be prohibited at this time."

This order does not restrict the use of propane or gas stoves, but does prohibit the use of charcoal briquettes, as well as any other solid fuels. Other activities prohibited include:

Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or an area three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared to mineral soil.

Discharging or use of any type of fireworks, tracer ammunition, or other pyrotechnic device.

Additional restrictions are in force in the southwest corner of the state, which prohibit operating a chainsaw or motorized equipment, blasting, welding, or other activities that generate flame or flammable material, or operating a motorized vehicle off designated roads or trails from 1:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. each day.

Due to the variety of fire restrictions that have been placed by cities and counties, it is strongly encouraged that people venturing into recreation or back country areas should check with local authorities. Detailed fire restrictions may also be found at <http://www.ut.blm.gov/fire/restrictions.htm>. Fire restriction orders do not apply to incorporated cities and towns.

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